

The Charter of the Gauteng Rover Advisory Council

November 2021

be prepared

Table of Contents

1. Preamble	3
2. Name	4
3. Function	4
4. Membership.....	6
5. Attendance.....	6
6. Meetings	6
7. Voting	7
8. Officers	7
9. Election of Officers.....	9
10. Removal Of Officers	9
11. Representatives and Delegates.....	9
12. Council Executive Committee	10
13. Committees	10
14. Funds	10
15. Charter Amendments.....	11
16. Definitions	12

1. Preamble

The original Rover representative body in the Gauteng Region was established in November 1938 as the 'Transvaal Rover Executive Committee'. After a change in terminology this body became known as the 'Transvaal Rover Advisory Council' (TRAC). With the reorganisation of regional boundaries, the committee responsible for the Gauteng region became known as the Gauteng Rover Advisory Council.

The Council is bound by the objectives of SCOUTS South Africa. All members of the Council are expected to adhere to the Scout Promise, the Scout Law and the Rover Motto, as defined in OR.

This Charter defines the functions, structure and operation of the Council. Should there be any conflicts between the Charter and OR, OR shall prevail.

2. Name

- The name of the Council shall be the Gauteng Rover Advisory Council and is referred to herein as the Council.
- In addition, the acronym 'GRAC' may also serve to refer to the Council.

3. Function

- All Rover matters within the Gauteng Region of SSA are governed by the Council, which has the following functions:
 - To be responsible for the development and maintenance of Rover standards in the Region.
 - To encourage the participation of member Crews in Star Crew Awards.
 - To promote and organise Rover activities in the Region, such as:
 - The Pop Bolton 'Look Wide' Trophy is a Rover competition, traditionally held in the form of an 'incident hike' on the Saturday night nearest to the winter solstice. The competition is organised by a Crew, usually the crew that won the previous year's competition. Trophies are awarded for the overall winner (a landscape oil painting of a Highveld scene painted by 'Pop' Bolton) and, since 1997, a Spirit Trophy.
 - Rover Fest is an annual competitive event where Rovers compete as individuals in a number of categories. Founded in 2019 by Joshua Kretschmar.
 - Rover Day is an annual single day event intended to promote Rovering to Scouts nearing over age.
 - Rover Fun Day is an annual fundraising event, the activity is determined by the Council.
 - To encourage interaction between crews by promoting Regional Rover Trophies
 - The 'Blik' is a trophy for competition between crews. A crew wishing to earn the Blik must challenge the crew in possession of the trophy to three competitions, one of which must be chosen by the challenged crew. The crew that wins the challenge then becomes the holder. A crew can retain the trophy through a number of challenges if they are successful. The trophy is traditionally added to by the winner of each event with a memento from the challenge. Any activity that can

be measured or scored in some way could be the basis for a Blik competition.

- The 'Roving Tea Cup' is a purely social 'floating trophy' between crews. It is passed from one crew to another when the two crews meet for an inter-crew social of any form. Any crew can contact the crew currently holding the 'Tea Cup' to arrange a social with them. At the end of the social, the Tea Cup passes from one crew to the other. The intention is that this trophy should be circulated often, to promote inter-crew social activities.
 - 'The Tyre' is a floating trophy intended to promote community service within the region. A crew in possession of 'The Tyre' should try to dispose of it as soon as possible, by organising a community service event and inviting another crew, The Tyre shall then be transferred to the invited crew. In order to qualify as an event where The Tyre may be transferred, the event must consist of a minimum of 5 consecutive hours of community service and be attended by a minimum of either 5 members or 66 percent of both Crews.
- To promote the organisation of training courses for Rovers in the Region and in particular Rover Chairs.
 - To maintain a record of Crews, Crew contacts, meeting places and times of meetings and to receive reports from each Crew at Council meetings.
 - To make decisions as to the rules and methods by which it shall conduct, administer and implement its operations, but for those matters which may affect the general principles of the Movement as expressed in OR.

4. Membership

- The Council shall comprise of all Rovers, Squires and Warranted Rover Scouters who are members of crews registered with SSA who fall under the auspices of the Gauteng Region.

5. Attendance

- Attendance of Council meetings shall be open to Rover Recruits, Rover Squires, Invested Rovers, Council Members, the Regional Commissioner, the RTC: Rovers, STM: Rovers, and any other person as invited by a member.
- Each Crew in the Gauteng Region should strive to have at least one representative at each GRAC meeting. Attendance at meetings can count towards Star Crew evaluation points.

6. Meetings

- The location and date of General Meetings and Annual General Meetings will be determined for the forthcoming year at the AGM.
- Should circumstances arise that prohibit the Council's ability to hold 'in person' meetings, meetings may be held virtually.
- Notices of meetings:
 - Shall be communicated via the 'Gauteng Rovers' Whatsapp Group, 'GT-Rovers' mailing list and via email to Crew Chairs.
 - Shall include the matter or matters to be considered.
 - Shall be communicated no later than 14 days before any meeting.
- General Meetings:
 - Shall be held 3 times per year, every third month, beginning in February.
- Special General Meetings:
 - Shall be called by the Council Executive Committee when a written request is received.
 - May be requested the Council Executive Committee, Council Members, the Regional Commissioner and the RTC:Rovers.
 - Must be held no earlier than 14 days and no later than 30 days of receipt of request.
 - Notices shall specify the subjects to be considered at the meeting and only those subjects shall be considered.
- Annual General Meetings:
 - Shall be held in November each year.

7. Voting

- Each Crew registered with SSA which falls under the auspices of the Gauteng Region and is in good standing with SSA will be entitled to one vote should a matter be put to the vote.
- There shall be no voting by proxy.

8. Officers

- The officers of the Council and their duties shall be:
 - Chair
 - Lead the Council in obtaining the objectives of the Council and the goals of SSA.
 - Conduct opening and closing ceremonies.
 - Chair Meetings.
 - Represent the Council at meeting of other bodies (including but not limited to NRAC).
 - Manage the Council by setting the standard for officers and committees, and ensuring that their tasks are completed correctly.
 - Vice Chair
 - To take the Chair's place in their absence.
 - To carry out tasks delegated by the Chair.
 - To assist the Chair.
 - Treasurer
 - To receive and bank into the Council account all monies paid to the Council.
 - To issue receipts for all monies paid to the Council.
 - To maintain accurate records of all moneys received, paid or held on behalf of the Council.
 - To only make authorised payments on behalf of the Council.
 - To prepare and submit at each GM a verbal statement of receipts, expenditures and balance.
 - Prepare an Annual Account Statement for presentation at the AGM.

- Scribe
 - To take minutes at all GMs, AGMs, SGMs and at any other meetings, receive Crew reports, file minutes and reports, and distribute minutes to Council Members.
 - To inform all Council Members of forthcoming meetings within the specified timeframe.
 - To tender the minutes of the previous meetings at GMs and AGMs.
 - To receive all correspondence, make the Chair aware of it, and pass it on to the appropriate officer.
 - Administer and keep up to date the list of Registered Crews.
- Social Media Officer
 - To be responsible for Council and Regional Rover publicity to promote membership and awareness.
 - To act as Social Media Manager of the Council social media pages and make regular updates, including articles, reports and photos.
 - To keep a log book of all events.
 - Ensure a log entry is written for each activity by the organiser or substitute.
- Any ad hoc position which, in the opinion of the AGM delegates, is necessary for the smooth functioning of GRAC.

9. Election of Officers

- The election of officers of the Council shall take place each year at the Annual General Meeting.
- The positions of all officers shall be open to all invested Rovers in good standing who will not have reached their 30th birthday in the next 12 months.
- Nominations for positions of the Council will be opened 3 months prior to the AGM, nominations shall be received by the RTC: Rovers.
- Verbal nominations for all positions may be received at the AGM.
- Nominees may be elected *in absentia*.
- The RTC: Rovers, or a nominee thereof shall act as Election Officer.
- All positions shall be declared vacant at the Annual General Meeting by the Election Officer. Elections of nominees shall then commence, overseen by the Election Officer.
- Should an officer resign or be removed during their term of office, the position may be filled at any subsequent Council meeting. The election of the new officer shall be conducted in the manner described above.
- The election shall be by show of hands or by ballot if requested by a member of the Council. The nominee obtaining the majority of votes shall be elected.
- The term of office for the Chair shall be one year, with a maximum term of two consecutive years.

10. Removal Of Officers

- Officers may be removed from the Council Executive Committee:
 - Through a vote of no confidence at any GM, AGM or SGM, by a majority vote of 75% of the registered Crews present.
 - By the RTC: Rovers, in consultation with the Council Executive Committee.
 - By the Council Executive Committee, by a Majority vote of 66% of Officers.

11. Representatives and Delegates

- The Council may appoint ad hoc representatives and delegates to the Council Executive Committee. Persons so appointed shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting or for as long as the Council deems necessary.

12. Council Executive Committee

- The Council Executive Committee shall consist of all the officers listed in section 9.
- The duties of the members of the Council Executive Committee shall be:
 - To meet regularly;
 - To transact all urgent business;
 - To prepare business, recommendations, proposals, and background information for the Council;
 - To perform such administrative duties as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the Council.
 - To determine the dates of forthcoming activities and relay such dates to the RTC: Rover Programme and RC for inclusion in the Regional YATAG.

13. Committees

- The Council Executive Committee may establish committees to organise and supervise Regional Rover activities, business and projects in the best interests of Rovering.
- The Members of such committees may be elected or co-opted and the Chair of such committees may be appointed by the Council Executive Committee or elected by any such committee.
- Such committees, through their Chair, may from time-to-time be required to report to the Council Executive Committee Chair, and shall provide reports at Council Meetings.

14. Funds

- Each Crew shall pay annual capitation fees as determined by the Region.
- Surpluses/deficits from activities carried out by Crews on behalf of the Council shall be paid into the Council's account.
- Budgets for all activities carried out by Crews on behalf of the Council will be presented to the Council at least two meetings prior to of the activity. Failure to do so may result in the Council's withdrawal of support for such activities.
- Any accounts managed by the Council shall have signatories comprising of the Chair, Treasurer, RTC: Rovers and Regional Commissioner. Two signatories shall be required for all actions preformed with accounts managed by the Council.

15. Charter Amendments

- This charter may be amended only as follows:
 - Notice of the proposed change shall be given at a GM or AGM of the Council, to be deliberated at the next subsequent Council Meeting. Notice shall be included in the notice of such meeting.
 - At a subsequent GM, AGM or SGM (when one has been called for the purpose of Charter Amendment), the proposed amendment may be adopted by a majority vote of 75% of the registered Crews present.
- This Charter may not otherwise be amended.

16. Definitions

Rover	Rover is an adult aged from eighteen to thirty years of age.
RS	Rover Scouter
GRAC	Gauteng Rover Advisory Council
OR	Organisational Rules
Crew	For brevity, used in place of Rover Crew
GM	General Meeting
SGM	Special General Meeting
AGM	Annual General Meeting
RTC	Regional Team Co-ordinator
STM	Support Team Member
Executive	For brevity, the Gauteng Rover Advisory Council Executive Committee
SSA	SCOUTS South Africa
NRAC	National Rover Advisory Council
Region	For brevity, refers to the Gauteng Region of SSA
YATAG	Year at a glance
Gauteng Region	The Gauteng Region as established by SSA or its successor in title
Council	GRAC